

# Black Tornado Gridders Head Thursday for Scene of State A-1 Championship Encounter

A pep rally at the school at 8 a.m. Thursday will give the potent Medford high football squad a rousing send-off on its mighty final bid to capture the Oregon Class A-1 championship and the first state gridiron mantle for the school since 1944.

The 33-man squad and coaches and managers then will go from the school building to the stadium to load up for their bus trip to Portland. Head mentor Fred Spiegelberg has set an 8:30 a.m. Thursday departure time for the Black Tornado.

Medford encounters the high-geared, high-rising Golden Pirates of Marshfield high, the defending titlist, Friday at 8 p.m. in Multnomah stadium in a gigantic clash for the state's 1956 big school banner.

The Black Tornado will seek to squelch the try by the Coos Bay Buccaneers for their third consecutive championship. Marshfield deadlocked with South Salem in the 1954 titular game and gained lone hold on the trophy by whipping Graham in the 1955 final battle.

**Tie Gives Confidence**

Rated No. 2 in press polls behind Marshfield's No. 1 ranking, the Tornado, nevertheless, looks toward the championship engagement with confidence based on its 20 to 20 knot with the Pirates in a non-counter earlier in the season. It was a contest which could have gone either way. The tie was the only "draw" on an undefeated 11 game season for both schools. Marshfield goes into the big tussle also with an unbeaten skein over three years of competition.

During this final week of practice of the season Coaches Spiegelberg, Bob Newland and Paul Evensen, who have built Medford's southern Oregon power, have sought to keep their Black Tornado cohorts "healthy" and "eager."

The club did a lot of running in its Monday workout and the gridder worked long and hard yesterday and today in toning up their own versatile offense and preparing defenses for the Bucs. But while there has been dummy drill, the coaches and squad have avoided any hard contact scrimmage.

The club will work out Thursday afternoon at the Lincoln school field in Portland. It will be quartered at the Washington Hotel.

**Stearns Returns**

End Mike Stearns, who suffered a sprained neck in the Graham quarter-final and missed the Benson semi-final tussle, rejoined the squad Monday and has worked out without pads. It isn't certain just how much duty he'll see on Friday night. Spiegelberg indicated that his charges are otherwise in good physical shape, coming through the Benson fray unscathed.

Medford, like the top-ranked Pirates, goes into the final with an impressive 1956 record. With a rugged, charging line, which has won the respect of every foe and with a depth of shifty running and bull-dozing backs, the Tornado single wing and T formations have accumulated a massive 382 points while holding opponents to 102.

While Marshfield held the Tornado to three touchdowns in the kang's-Xer, the Medfordites have shoved across at least four TDs in every other game. No team, except Marshfield scored more than two goals against the

Rogue valley stalwarts. Average 327.4 Yards

A total of 3602 yards from scrimmage, an average of 327.4 per game has been rolled up by the Tornado while opponents have been held to 2263 or 205.7 per contest. Medford has gained 2944 rushing and 658 passing while the opposition has collected 1308 on the ground and 955 through the air.

Halfback Gary Riley bolstered his high scoring position last week end with four TDs against Benson for 96 points and took over the rushing leadership

when his 159 yards upped his total to 629 for the season. His average gain per game is 6.98 for 90 carries.

Halfback Eldon Francis is second high scorer with 72 and Loren Christen is second in rushing with 588 and has the top average with 8.05 per time with the ball. He packed on 73 occasions. Other rushing figures, times carried, yards and average are Francis 102-576-5.64, fullback Bob Gee 67-310-4.62, quarterback Dick McLoughlin 73-305-4.19 and halfback Gordon Owsley 36-251-6.97.

## MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE SPORTS

### Sport Parade

By OSCAR FRALEY  
Sports Writer  
United Press

New York—(U.P.)—This is the week they "ring down the curtain" on that old "pigin panorama." Unless you follow the pros instead of this prose, you'll have to "wait 'til next year" to see those "highly touted," "helmeted heroes," "hit pay dirt," "split the uprights," and "tight rope down the sidelines."

Anyway, though, the crisp autumn air was nice and tangy except on those days when it

### Rick Casares Under Threat By Matson

Philadelphia—(U.P.)—Chicago Bear Rick Casares' season long stature as the best ball carrier in the National Football league was under threat for the first time today and cross-town rival Ollie Matson of the Chicago Cardinals is responsible.

Casares has been setting the pace from the start but Matson drew within 26 points of him by rolling up 159 yards against the Pittsburgh Steelers last Sunday. Casares, meanwhile, was being held to 13 by the New York Giants.

Casares now has chewed up 774 yards on 178 carries for 4.3 average. Matson has gained 748 on 145 rushes for a 5.2 figure.

Eddie Brown of the Bears continued to monopolize the league's passing department. Brown has thrown 124 passes, completed 78 for 1,400 yards and 10 touchdowns.

Billy Wilson, San Francisco, broke a three-way tie among the receivers by catching seven passes last week to bring his total to 42, one more than Harlon Hill of the Bears, who also caught seven. Billy Howton of Green Bay is third with 39.

Casares was ousted as the leading scorer by Bobby Layne of the Detroit Lions, who boasts 78 points to ripping Dick's 72.

Norm Van Brocklin, Los Angeles, held on to the best punter laurels he grabbed the previous week. He has a 43.8 average, compared to 43.1 for Dick Deshaime of Green Bay.

Ken Konz, Cleveland, jumped from seventh to first in punt returns with a 15.3 average. Frank Bernardi, Cardinals, last week's leader, is second with 14.1.

In kickoff returns, Tom Wilson, Los Angeles, went from fifth to the top with a 32.5 average. Matson, Cardinals, is second with 30.2.

### Swaps Selected Horse of Year

New York—Swaps record-breaking performances during 1956 today earned him "horse of the year" honors in the annual poll of thoroughbred champions conducted by the Daily Racing Form and Morning Telegraph.

EAGLES SIGN GIBRON

Philadelphia—(U.P.)—A be Gibron, veteran guard released by the Cleveland Browns last week, has been signed by the Philadelphia Eagles to replace injured Norm Willey.

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GINGER ALE



### Basketball NATIONAL LEAGUE

By United Press

Bob Cousy, perhaps the slickest player in the National Basketball association, is up to his old tricks these days and the Boston Celtics are threatening to run away from the opposition as a result.

The gifted play-maker chalked up 27 points Tuesday night to lead the Celtics to their sixth straight victory—102-90 over the St. Louis Hawks. His sharp ball handling and playmaking controlled the tempo of the game almost from the outset.

The victory was Boston's ninth in 12 starts and enabled the Celtics to keep a four-game lead over the second-place New York Knickerbockers in the Eastern division.

New York snapped a three-game losing streak by defeating the Fort Wayne Pistons, 105-98; the Rochester Royals beat the Syracuse Nationals, 90-82, and the Minneapolis Lakers dined the Philadelphia Warriors, 113-98.

### Cards' Peete And Family Die in Crash

St. Louis—(U.P.)—The loss of promising outfielder Charley Peete and his family in a plane crash was viewed by officials of the St. Louis Cardinals today as a "great tragedy."

The 27-year-old rookie, his wife and their three children were among 25 persons killed Tuesday in an airliner crash near Caracas, Venezuela.

**Terribly Shocked**

"We are terribly shocked and startled," General Manager Frank Lane said "it's not a question, of course, of any effect on the ball club, it's the terrible tragedy of the thing."

Peete played 16 games with the Cardinals in mid-season and was en route to Venezuela to play winter baseball with the Valencia team. Also dead are his wife, Nettie; two young daughters, Karen and Debo; and his 4-month-old son, Kenny.

### Navy Choice Over Army

By UNITED PRESS

If you're a Navy roofer and plan to bet with your fellow worker on Saturday's Army-Navy football game, be prepared to spot him a 2½ point advantage.

That's the official "spread" favoring the Middies in their annual head-knocking with the Cadets Saturday at Philadelphia, which usually attracts almost as many friendly wagers as a Kentucky Derby or a World Series.

Navy rated its slight edge because of a superior record this year. The Middies have won six games, while losing to Tulane, and tying Duke. Army has won five and lost to Michigan, Syracuse and Pittsburgh.

### Prothro Speaker At Lions' Dinner For Grid Squad

Medford Lions club will be host to the Medford high football squad on Tuesday, Dec. 11, for an evening dinner at the Jackson hotel.

Coch Tom Prothro of the Rose Bowl bound Oregon State college football club will be the main speaker. He will show movies of the Stanford-OSC game.

The dinner will be open to the public. Tickets will be on sale starting Thursday at Barker's Men's store and at the hotel.

### Drive To Save Solons Succeeds

Salem—(U.P.)—A drive to save the Salem baseball club of the Northwest league was reported a success today by board director George Paulus. He said 51 local fans had subscribed 100 per cent to a partnership plan by which any deficit that the club might accumulate next year will be underwritten.

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### Ducks Fare Better Than OSC in Stats.

Los Angeles—(U.P.)—Oregon fared better—statistics-wise than did Oregon State's Rose Bowl entry in the Pacific Coast Conference football race in 1956, the commissioner's office reported today.

As a team, Oregon topped the PCC in three departments to none for the Beavers. These were punt returns with a 15.5 yard average, pass defense with a 76.9 yard average and total defense with a 235.9 average.

Individually Leroy Phelps of Oregon led the PCC in punt returns with 204 yards and Jack Morris of the Ducks led in kickoff returns with 292 yards.

In other team departments, Oregon ranked third in kickoff returns, second in rushing defense, fifth in punting, fifth in pass interceptions, sixth in total offense, eighth in passing offense and third in rushing offense.

**OSC Figures**

Oregon State was eighth in punt returns, fourth in kickoff returns, fourth in rushing defense, fifth in pass defense, fourth in total defense, fourth in punting, sixth in pass interceptions, seventh in passing offense, fifth in total offense and fourth in rushing offense.

Fullback Tom Berry led OSC scorers with 43 points to 36 each for Earnel Durden and Paul Lowe. Berry was fourth in the PCC while Oregon had no one among the leaders.

Joe Francis of OSC led the two schools in total offense with 751 total yards to rank fifth in the PCC. Morris of Oregon was fifth in rushing with 519 yards, just ahead of Durden with 508 yards.

### Red Raiders Rap Alumni By 72 to 42

Ashland—Southern Oregon college basketballers disposed of the school Alumni 72 to 42 here last night and today resumed preparations for a trip to McMinnville Friday and Saturday to oppose Linfield college.

The fray last night was fairly close in the first half but the younger collegians pulled away in the second session.

Freshman Norm Oliva and veteran Dale Bates led Raider scoring with 12 tallies each and Bruce Penny got 10. Coach Ted Schopf two-platooned his SOC crew through the warm-up hassle.

In a junior varsity prelim the Blacks downed the Whites 62 to 51.

**LINE-UPS:**

SOC 72	42 Alumni
D. Reese 6	4 R. Maurer
Foust 4	4 G. Smith
Oliva 12	5 Newton
Bates 12	6 K. Johnson
Jacobson 8	7 Riggs
Substitutions—For SOC: Penny 10, Tenney 4, Crandall 2, Christianson 2, Lowrance 6, for Alumni: Copeland 6, Perkins 6, K. Bertrand 2, Morris Jimenez 2.	

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### OREGON VETERANS EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

WORLD WAR II DEADLINE: December 31, 1956, is the deadline date for any World War II Veteran to initiate his receipt of these benefits. This means that the veteran must be in training on or before December 31, 1956. There is NO deadline for Korean veterans.

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### Oregon Boasts Best Mark Of PCC in Total Defense

Los Angeles—(U.P.)—Six teams shared top honors in the Pacific Coast Conference football team statistics released today by the PCC commissioner's office.

Washington, Washington State, Stanford, Southern California, Oregon and UCLA headed the various departments. All the teams with the exception of Southern California have completed their seasons.

Washington topped rushing with a 268.6 yard average to 264.6 for Southern California. Washington State led Stanford 206.8 to 204.4 in passing but the Indians were first in total offense with 345.2 to 343 for Southern California. Washington State led Stanford 206.8 to 204.4 in passing but the Indians were first in total offense with 345.2 to 343 for Southern California.

Oregon boasted the best total defense mark for the 10th straight week, having allowed 235.9 total yards. The Southern California Trojans turned in the top rushing defense average of 152.9. The UCLA Bruins were first in punting with a 41.5 yard average.

**Brodie Heads Passing**

Stanford's John Brodie who won passing honors while Kirk Wilson of UCLA was the leading punter. Brodie completed 139 passes in 10 games to break a record of 137 set by Don Heinrich of Washington in 1952.

Wilson also was a record breaker. He averaged 49.3 yards on 30 punts to surpass the old mark of 43.5 recorded by Des. Koch of USC on 47 kicks in 1952. The versatile Bruin tailback also topped the 20-kick minimum record of 45.8 yard set by Art Steffen of UCLA in 1948.

Brodie's sensational passing

### BOWL MIX SATURDAY

Evansville, Ind.—(U.P.)—Sam Houston State college, champion of the Lone Star conference, and Middle Tennessee State college, Ohio Valley conference champion, clash in the ninth annual Refrigerator bowl football game at Reitz bowl here Saturday.

### Sports Broadcasts

Radio station KYJC will broadcast the Willi Hoepner-Chuck Spieser boxing bout at 7 p.m. today.

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performance provided the yardage he needed to be first in total offense with 1,642 yards. He was followed by Bob Newman of Washington State with 1,177 and Joe Kapp of California with 819.

C. R. Roberts of USC sewed up the rushing title with 695 yards, followed by Lou Valli of Stanford with 628 and Jon Arnett of Southern California with 625. Dean Derby of Washington was the leading scorer with 63 points while Valli was close behind with 60.

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